

SPORTS AS THE EXPERTS SEE THEM

1916 MAY WITNESS PASSING OF GAME'S GREAT TRIO

By TOMMY CLARK

BASEBALL fans are keeping close tabs on the work of the game's famous three veterans, Larry Lajoie of the Philadelphia Athletics, Hans Wagner of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants. According to the diamond experts this will be their last season in the big show. As all three players have helped make baseball history during their long careers in the game, their passing will be a sad loss to the followers of our national pastime. Both Lajoie and Wagner started the 1916 season in fine style and have done much to help their respective teams win games, but as the campaign lengthens the strain will tell. As for Mathewson, his pitching arm is a matter of conjecture.

Larry Lajoie, who looks younger and lighter this season than he has for years, is playing a steady game. Larry, who for years was one of the greatest stars of the game, was really given to the old Philadelphia club. That club sent a scout to get Phil Geler, a Washington boy, who was then much in demand because he was the best of the youngsters. He and Lajoie were on the same team, and when the scout purchased Geler they threw in Lajoie for good measure. He developed into one of the best ball players and hitters in the history of the game.

Hans Wagner had a similar experience. He was turned down by many scouts who went to see him play because they all reported that he was too awkward, but when he had been with the Louisville club for a few weeks he demonstrated that he was a fast man and soon developed into one of the greatest ball players that ever lived. It is questionable whether the great Cobb, now the wonder of the game, will be able to equal Wagner's long record. Despite the fact that Wagner has been continually playing the infield, which is naturally much harder than the outfield.

The game has never seen Wagner's equal, with the exception of Ty Cobb. Though Hans is forty-two years old now, he is still a major league star.

Despite statements to the contrary from those who are given credit for being in the know, so far as Christy Mathewson is concerned, it is learned from a most reliable source that the great pitcher has seen his best days, though he may show up fairly well in his waning McGraw, however, it is said to be a certainty that "Big Six" is through, and if an opportunity to buy a good right hander presents itself, would not hesitate to pay a big price for him.

To lose the services of so great a pitcher as Mathewson is a blow from which few clubs can emerge in good shape. McGraw eventually will get down to developing youngsters in order to build up a pitching staff which will be strong enough to carry his team along, but there probably never will be another Mathewson. He was one of the artists of the pitching profession, and it is doubtful if the game will again see his equal. Turning now to others, opposing pitchers consider Catcher Ray Schalk of the Chicago White Sox one of the best defensive players on that team. "The little cat" who is apt to break up a game whenever he gets up in a pinch. He seems to be at his best whenever he is placed in a position where it probably means victory for his team if he can come through with a base hit, and opposing pitchers take every precaution to give Schalk all they have in the way of deceptive deliveries.

Johnny Tobin, who plays right field for the St. Louis Browns, has for the season, never having played professional ball until he joined the St. Louis outlaws, and therefore has no biennial on his record. He is proving himself a mighty handy ball player for the Fielder Jones outfit and is likely to retain his job for many years to come. He is not only a good hitter and fielder and a fast man on the bases, but an intelligent player in every respect.

The fact that several vigorous old heads like Roger Bresnahan, George Stovall, Al Shaw, Steve Evans, Hush Sedgely, Ed Sweeney and other former state governors of the big league have been assembled under the banner of the Toledo (American association) team has caused that bunch of talent



The faces of these three veteran ball players have been seen on the diamond a good many years, and their activities have made baseball history. Left to right the grand "young" men of the game are Larry Lajoie, Hans Wagner and, in the center, Christy Mathewson.

Photos by American Press Association.



his eye ever since peace with the Feds was declared.

Some experts are of the opinion that in a short time the Boston Braves will take the lead in the National league race, and the chances are that the team will not be headed by the end of the season. Stallings has the best team he has ever presided over, and he is probably stronger in the pitching department than ever before. Barnes, Nahl, Rudolph and the veteran Tyler are all pitching high grade ball, and with the team hitting up to its standard and a decidedly strong defensive line, the Braves are by far the most dangerous team in the old league. By the time the first clash with the western teams has been recorded the Braves will in all probability be leading the procession.

The Braves who won the pennant and the world series in 1914 were not nearly as strong an aggregation as this present one. It is decidedly questionable whether

the Pittsburgh Pirates, over which Jimmy Callahan is presiding, will be prominent in the old league race. Cal needs a lot of better players than he has, though in spots he is well fortified.

He has installed a lot of ginger in his players, and they are giving him their best services. Otto Knabe, erstwhile Baltimore Red manager, has been shifted to third base for the Pirates. While this position is absolutely new to him, he has filled it brilliantly.

Knabe is pretty certain to make a great man for Callahan, as he is an intelligent player and one who always does his best for any team he may play with.

SPRING ARRIVES IN ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS' park department issued 388 golf permits and 678 tennis permits a few days ago in its first season for the giving out of permits to use the public links and courts of the Mound City.

Dorizas, Wrestler, A Crack Student

MICHAEL M. DORIZAS, star student in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania and wrestling champion of the intercollegiate league, is a great all around athlete.

Mike, as he is called by his mates, excels in many branches of sports. He is champion strong man, holding the record for the strength test made less than a year ago. He played tackle on the red and blue football eleven, is star weight man for the track and field representatives, while on the wrestling mat he is the superior of any man who ever faced him since his advent into college athletics in 1913.

Not only is Mike an accomplished athlete, but he is a splendid student. He qualified for a scholarship in anthropology in 1913 and received such high marks in his studies that he was recommended for a position as instructor at the Germantown academy last year. He is employed as special instructor in history, geography and French at the present time.

The history of this wonderful Greek athlete is one that holds out great promise to all boys. He was born in Constantinople. His early life was given up to traveling through the Balkan regions. At the age of eighteen he became a member of the Greek Olympic team. The records of this meet fail to show that Dorizas created any athletic history by spectacular performance. But the knowledge gained by Dorizas in this meet helped him materially in reaching his present high standard of excellence.

In 1912 he graduated from Roberts college, Constantinople, and journeyed to this country. He entered the University of Pennsylvania that fall. His advent into Penn was not heralded by any waving of banners. To his appearance he was just a plain, ordinary student.

NOT ENOUGH STUFF FOR BENNIE

ONE often hears the statement made, "There is nothing new under the sun." Quite often, yes?

And one does not so often see this statement controverted positively, as well, recently there was a new one sprung. It was really new, and the author of it, as might be expected, was Bennie Kauff.

Bennie is understood to be a demon at bat. He was said to be able to hit the ball a mile. High ones or low ones, they all were supposed to look alike to him. Straight fast ones, curves, slow ones and all. They all were good ones, so 'twas said.

But one day recently Bennie failed to hit, and many wondered why.

That's where the new stuff comes in. The pitchers did not have enough on the ball to make it possible to hit.

This was Bennie's excuse, statement or claim, just as it may be taken after the game.

Now what do you think of that?

MICHIGAN'S NEW STRONG MAN

R. W. JOHNSON, Michigan's strong man, recently broke the world's record in strength tests formerly held by Ross of Yale. The Wolverine pulled up a total of 3,031 points, breaking the previous record by 622 points.

Johnson earned the title of strongest man at Michigan last year.

Coaching Will Cost Harvard \$40,000

IN the reorganization of Harvard football next fall more than \$40,000 is expected to be expended for the coaching staff. It is commonly understood that Harvard will pay Gridiron Coach Haughton \$5,000 annually for three years and that a like sum was made up for his benefit by interested alumni.

An increase in salary is to be expected in Haughton's case, the figures of which, all told, will probably foot \$15,000 for next season as general director.

Field Coach Leo Leary, who is to have charge of the development of the team until Haughton's baseball duties are over, will very likely draw down \$5,000.

Charley Brickley, who has given up his post at Johns Hopkins to help Harvard as drop kicking coach and backfield teacher, is also expected to count over a bank roll of at least \$4,000. In Leary's case, as in Brickley's, as well as Reggie Brown, the strategic wealthy alumni will make up the difference between their contract with the crimson and the crimson and the crimson that they have served to coach for next fall. Brown will very likely pick up \$4,000 for scout duty. Then, too, such assistants as Derrie Parmelee, Dick Wiegandworth, Dick King, Willie Trumbull, Mal Losen, Gil Browne and Dumphy Watson must all have their little bit of change in exchange for working six days a week trying to bring Harvard down "right" for the big battles with Cornell, Princeton and Yale.

CROSS COUNTRY GOLF POPULAR.

"CROSS COUNTRY" golf is a new departure from the regular game which is finding favor with the students of the University of Oregon. Contestants have only one hole to play for, but its distance from the teeing off place may range from a mile to three miles or, in fact, any distance which may be decided upon. As suggested by the title, "cross country," the ground played over is not calculated to be chased as fairway.

All the entries in a "cross country" tournament start at a selected point, the distance decided on from the home and play goes on for as long as the ball is putted into the cup.

The University of Washington was the first of the northwestern colleges to take up golf, and the Oregonians followed suit a year ago. It is likely that the two institutions will hold an intercollegiate competition later in the spring.

WILL NUMBER YALE GRID-IRONERS.

THE Yale football players will be numbered next fall, according to a statement by Captain Black. He said that his earlier decision not to wear numbers was hasty.

NEARLY 1,000 LOST IN SPORT.

A STATISTICIAN supplies the information that his lives were sacrificed on the fields of sport during the last ten years. Not a great many considering the number engaged.

Baseball, which thousands and thousands play, heads the list with 334 fatalities. Football is second, with 215 auto racing third, with 123, and boxing fourth, with 105. In this time 77 cyclists were killed and 54 lost their lives at horse racing.

Of the strenuous games wrestling has the best record, only fifteen perishing on the mat. One of the surprising facts is that fourteen persons should lose their lives playing golf in ten years. Golf is supposed to be an old man's sport. Nine were killed at bowling.

Reserve Clause Causes Mixup

EVER have any one try to sell you something you already owned? Branch Rickey tried to sell President Bob Allen of the Little Rock Travelers a pitcher whom the Little Rock club owned. Here's how it was:

"I've got a pitcher who would make a good man for your club. He's a spitball pitcher," said Rickey, the sales manager of the Browns, in the course of a conversation when Allen was in St. Louis.

"Don't like spitball pitchers," was Allen's laconic reply.

"He's a big fellow," said Branch. "Whazzis name?" fired back Bob. "He's got lots of speed."

"Where diddy pitch last year?" "He's a Federal leaguer."

"Feds?"

"I've got a chance to sell him for \$500."

"What did you say his name was?" queried the Trav boss.

"You can have him for \$500; name's Stone."

"You'll not sell Stone to me for \$500, he's my property already," said the Little Rock president.

"Whazzis?" "Fours? Why, you're way off. He belongs to the Browns," said Rickey.

So Bob called for the reserve list, while Branch hastened the stenographer after the old Montgomery correspondence. It seemed that the Browns owned the pitcher several years ago, but farmed him to Montgomery. When he hurriedly President Hedges did not go to the trouble to recall him, so he was carried on the Montgomery reserve list when the Montgomery franchise was transferred to Little Rock.

"He's yours, I guess, Bob," said Rickey after the correspondence had proved the fact. "He's written that he wants to play this year for whoever owns him. Here's his letter, so after him. But if you hadn't been here to set me right I'm afraid I would have carried the case to the national commission."

PITCHER MITCHELL FINDS HIMSELF.

WILLIE MITCHELL, the Cleveland club's southpaw, thinks he has discovered why he has not been of more service to his team in the last four years. He figures that he has in the past hurried too much in the spring to get himself into condition.

As a result he usually was the first of the pitchers to be ready to pitch. He always started out in the spring like a whirlwind, but by late in May he would be through. This spring Mitchell has taken his time about getting ready for work, and he believes that as a result he will have the best season of his career.

CHINESE BOXER WILL NOT BECOME "PRO."

DON G. LEW, the Chinese boxer who recently won the lightweight championship of the University of Pennsylvania via the knockout route, will never desert the amateur ranks, despite strenuous efforts to entice him into the professional game.

"I box because I like the sport," said Lew, "and I shall always remain an amateur. When I finish my work at Penn—I am a freshman now—I intend to go to China and take up the practice

East Anxious to See Davis on Links

IF there is one American golf amateur that eastern players are eager to see more than another it is Harry W. Davis, Jr., of San Francisco, who has never competed but once east of the Pacific slope. As a result he is the greatest of drivers what he said recently about power in the game is worth printing:

"That the correct upright swing has more power than the flat swing is demonstrated by Evans, Duncan, Reid and Vardon—all long hitters. They get tremendous distance with little apparent effort and are deadly straight. In that connection here's a tip I have never heard before, and more's the pity, one that I often neglect to use and always to the rub of my game:

"The successful upright swinger in the address always has his hands at the top of the club head at the moment before he starts his back swing, and if he wants to be a long hitter he will stand almost square to the ball.

"Now, the ordinary club is not faced so as to lend itself to that position, which I truly believe the correct one for distance, direction and timing. The face points to the right, to someone, which a much too open stance is assumed. The proper way is to have a sufficient amount of hook put on the wooden clubs so that when the hands are several inches ahead of the club face in the address the face forms a right angle to the line of play."

Jennings Is After Weillman



Photo by American Press Association.

HUGH JENNINGS, manager of the Detroit team, being of the belief that his team could easily take the pennant to their camp if a good twirler or two were added to the wigwag, has made a liberal offer to Fielder Jones of the St. Louis Browns for Carl Weillman, the lucky southpaw. Jennings feels certain Weillman would strengthen his squad.

DEL DRAKE UNFORTUNATE IN BASEBALL

ABOUT the most unfortunate mortal in baseball is Del Drake, who had two or three trials with the Tigers and who was handed the pleasant task of trying to pry Cobb, Crawford, McIntyre or Jones out of his job. Del never seems to be the right one. Detroit kept sending him back because he didn't have enough experience, which is one way of saying that he was too young. Now it is reported that Memphis, which took him when the St. Louis Feds passed him up, has let him go because he's too old.

Somewhere between there must have been a right one for Drake. But it did him no good, unless it was to land him two seasons with the independent Atlanta Braves, which he never got to be a better salary than he ever got to be organized ball. His ascribed reason for hurrying was that O. B., which in his case meant the Detroit club—never had given him a fair deal. Nobody wanted him when the war ended, and he probably will class B it from now on. Drake was a good ball player, but just a little shy of big league quality.

DULUTH GETS BIG REGATTA.

THE annual championship regatta and regatta of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen will be held under the auspices of the Duluth Boat club of Duluth, Minn., Aug. 11 and 12.

Chalmers Not After Pennant



Photo by American Press Association.

STILL having a vivid view of last year's pennant flar, George Chalmers has asked Manager Pat Moran of Philadelphia to use him at least twice a week if necessary in order that he might do his share in capturing another championship. Chalmers states that every member of the team has the same feeling, and with such harmony reigning they ought to be able to succeed.